

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

ALBION COLLEGE AND ALBION
COLLEGE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT
PLAN,

Case No. 16-cv- 11624

Honorable Avern Cohn

Plaintiffs,

Magistrate Judge Mona K. Majzoub

v.

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF
MICHIGAN,

Defendant.

**JOINT STIPULATION AND REQUEST
TO STAY MATTER PENDING MEDIATION**

NOW COME Plaintiffs, Albion College and Albion College Employee Benefit Plan, and Defendant, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (“BCBSM”), by and through their undersigned Counsel and hereby jointly request that the Court stay all proceedings in this matter until **October 31, 2016**, to provide the Parties time to mediate the matter without having to engage in costly discovery, deposition and motion practice, and potential trial preparation. In support of their joint request, the Parties states as follows:

1. This case is one of several pending Access Fee cases currently pending against BCBSM.

2. The Parties in most of the pending Access Fee cases have agreed to mediate their disputes over the span of the next few months with the aid of Mr. Dennis

Barnes of Barris Sott Denn and Driker PLLC. Mr. Barnes has successfully mediated numerous Access Fee cases in the past.

3. Counsel for Plaintiffs and counsel for BCBSM are working to develop a comprehensive mediation schedule for the pending Access Fee cases. Given the number of pending cases, the Parties anticipate that the mediation schedule will extend into October 2016.

4. The parties are currently scheduling a mediation within the comprehensive mediation schedule.

5. Although discovery is stayed, the Parties anticipate informally exchanging information needed to have a successful mediation.

6. In order to devote their resources to pending mediations and provide the Parties time to mediate the matters without having to engage in costly discovery, deposition and motion practice, and potential trial preparation, the Parties request that this matter be stayed until **October 31, 2016**.

7. If mediation is not successful, the Parties request that the Court convene a scheduling conference at the Court's convenience after **October 31, 2016**, to set a case schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

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[PROPOSED]

**ORDER GRANTING JOINT REQUEST
TO STAY MATTER PENDING MEDIATION**

Based on the Joint Stipulation of the Parties and the Court being otherwise informed,

IT IS ORDERED that this matter is stayed until **October 31, 2016**, to provide the Parties time to mediate this matter before Mr. Dennis Barnes of Barris Sott Denn and Driker PLLC. If mediation is not successful, the Court will set a scheduling conference after October 31, 2016, to set a new case schedule.

ORDERED this 12TH day of July, 2016.

/s/S/Avern Cohn
United States District Judge